

2003 AUG - 7 Phillips

T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

## July 22, 2003

JUL 2 3 2003

Mr. David Foster

Regulatory Manager Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505

03 . 779

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

03-00464

**RE:** West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

Dear Mr. Foster:

I have enclosed tariff pages on behalf of West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc. to implement a new charge, *Late Payment Charge*, in the current tariff. The following tariff pages are enclosed:

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9th Revised Page 4

Section 2

1st Revised Page 2

Original Page 19.1

Original Page 19.2

Please accept this filing on a 30-day notice with a proposed effective date of August 22, 2003. I appreciate your bringing this to the attention of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.

If you should have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 318/322-0015.

Sincerely,

Suzie Phan Tariff Assistant

**Enclosures** 

cc:

West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

Consumer Advocate Division

1309 LOUISVILLE AVENUE M O N R O E L A 7 1 2 0 1 3 1 8 3 2 2 0 0 1 5 F A Y 3 1 8 3 2 3 2 1 6 4

#### GENERAL SERVICES TARIFF

West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

TRA Tariff 1 INDEX

Lera Roark Vice President

9<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 4 Cancels 8<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 4

Effective: 8/22/03 Issued: 7/23/03

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## GENERAL SERVICES TARIFF

West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

TRA Tariff 1

Lera Roark Vice President Issued: 7/23/03

SECTION 2 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page 2 Cancels Original Page 2

Effective: 8/22/03

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West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

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Lera Roark Vice President Issued: 7/23/03

Effective: 8/22/03

### 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

# 2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Continued)

- 5. Late Payment Charge
  - a. A late payment charge of two percent (2%) for residence customers (limited to one and one half percent (1.5%) for the first year following the effective date of this charge) and up to three percent (3%) for business customers may be charged for Company regulated services. A late payment charge of up to two percent (2%) for residence customers (limited to one and one half percent (1.5%) for the first year following the effective date of this charge) and up to three percent (3%) for business customers may be applied to charges for regulated services provided by a third party, provided:
    - (1) Company has given notice to customers; or
    - (2) The contract between the customer and the particular third party provides for the late fee; or
    - (3) A valid tariff exists permitting the particular third party to charge the late fee.
  - b. A different late fee may apply to charges for unregulated services at the rate as provided by the terms of service for these unregulated services, but not to exceed the rate for regulated service.
  - c. Late payment charges will be applied to the unpaid balance of each subscriber's bill (including amounts billed in accordance with the Company's Billing and Collections Tariff) when the previous month's bill has not been paid in full prior to the next billing date.

ALL MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE IS NEW.

West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc.

TRA Tariff 1 SECTION 2 Original Page 19.2

Lera Roark Vice President 7/23/03 Issued:

8/22/03 Effective:

#### GENERAL REGULATIONS 2.

## Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Continued) 2.4

- Late Payment Charge (Continued) 5.
  - Nonpayment of a late payment charge shall not be the sole cause for denial or termination of a customer's d. local exchange service.
  - This late payment charge will not apply to:
    - Lifeline customers; (1)
    - Specified charges disputed or contested by the customer, including any applicable taxes, fees (2) or charges directly related to the disputed amount;
    - Charges for prepaid services, except to the extent that the charges for such services (3)remain unpaid on the following bill date;
    - Charges for which the customer has had less than 21 days to pay (subject to notification by (4) the customer); and
    - Previous unpaid late payment charges. (5)
    - Charges for payments that are overdue on state government accounts will be applied consistent with f. the applicable state statutes.

ALL MATERIAL ON THIS PAGE IS NEW.